



Newsletter

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Elks Care - Elks Share

JULY 2012

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Message from the Exalted Ruler



Greetings Members! The first quarter of my term as ER has already passed and I have been fully engaged to set some guidelines and direction for improvements to the Club. Our House Committee, led by Bro. Jerry Yingling, is working on some major improvements to the Club which will provide better services to our members. This is no easy task, but I am confident that we will see the impact of these initiatives over the next several months.

It is important that we avoid taking on too many tasks, and thus we will focus on those matters that require immediate attention. Those two primary areas of focus are: 1) improving the kitchen, quality of food and service and, 2) creating a long-term obsolescence plan to replace the aging air conditioners with more efficient systems. Currently all of our air conditioners are at least 10 years old and need to be replaced over the next four to five years.

I have created a new team and will be chairing the Board of Trustees and House Committee Working Group to combine their collective knowledge and experience to tackle the initiatives that have been established. This Working Group will meet once a month to discuss issues and work on areas of concern for the Club.

From July 1-5, I attended the Grand Lodge Convention in Austin, Texas 1-5. There were approximately 6,000 attendees, with an ER or representative from all 2020 lodges across the States. This was a very good experience and demonstrated to me how dedicated all Elks are to Elkdom and the communities around us. Numerous topics were covered during the four days, but I draw your attention to two of the most important.

Unlike our growth trend, over the last five years, the Elks membership nationally has dropped from 1.2 million members to approximately 770,000 members at present. This is a concern if the Elks want to continue to survive and retain their charitable legacy. For our continued growth here at Manila Elks, I would like to ask that every member seek out new member and to invite them to the Club or our bi-monthly Membership Cocktail. This month it will be held on July 26. Membership is everyone's responsibility, not just the Membership Committee.

Clearly to sustain ourselves we need to generate income. Some members have failed to pay their annual membership dues for 2012-2013. For the members who have not paid, I encourage you to do so, now! These dues are what help us make improvements to our Club.

Getting the Elks out into the community and showing support for charities and events will promote what we are about. This, in fact, can help increase our membership. So please do your part.

I look forward to our having another successful year and to continued improvements to the Club facilities. The Lodge has done extremely well over the last several years and with the team of officers and committee members now have in place, we will continue to make improvements.

Fraternally yours,

Bro. Jeffery Green

Newsletter

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**Manila Lodge#761
Benevolent & Protective Order
of Elks of the U.S.A.**

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**LODGE YEAR 2012 – 2013
OFFICERS**

- Bro. Jeffery A. Green - Exalted Ruler
- Bro. Douglas Masuda - Est Leading Knight
- Bro. Joseph Quinlivan - Est Loyal Knight
- Bro. Rodney Klinge - Est Lecturing Knight
- Bro. Robert Lane - Lodge Secretary
- Bro. Thomas Jordan - Lodge Treasurer
- Bro. Philip Atkinson - Tiler
- Bro. Gerald Yingling - Esquire
- Bro. Paul Carpio - Chaplain
- Bro. Ben Lichtenberg - Inner Guard

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- PER Theodore Awad - Chairman
- PER Humphrey O'leary III - Member
- PER W. Thomas Hoese - Member
- Bro. Winniefred Sandico - Member
- PER Doyle Stout - Member

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UPCOMING EVENTS.....

Manila Elks Club
invites you to
**Bi-Monthly
Membership Cocktail**
*Complimentary Cocktail &
Hors d' Oeuvres*
Thursday, July 26. 6pm - 8pm
7th Flr. Corinthian Plaza Bldg.
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Attire: Business
RSVP
811-3173
811-3188 *****SPECIAL RAFFLE*****

Manila Elks Club
invites you to
**110th
Anniversary Celebration**
August 17, 2012
Friday, 7pm
P600/ticket
Inclusive of
Dinner
Since 1902
Featuring
CHARLETTES BAND
Elks Video Presentation
Ultimate Western BBQ Buffet, Dinner Dance
Best Western Costume, Special Raffle
Attire: Western Wear or Casual
Give us holler to let us know if yer comin! Call 811-3173 or 811-31-88

Starts in August

**LIVE OR PRE-RECORDED
COMMERCIAL FREE U.S. SPORTS
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

COMMITTEE DOINGS

FROM YOUR HOUSE COMMITTEE

Gerald Yingling , Chairman

Greetings from your House Committee

Your House Committee has been busy on operational issues, which it feels addresses the comments and concerns some members have expressed in the past. This year's HC members are: Philip Atkinson, Vice Chairman Chris Chipp, Reiner W. Gloor, Jerry Yingling Chairman, and Dennis Youngblood.

The Committee set about at its first meeting to establish its top three priorities with ER Jeff Green. Those identified as most urgent were a hiring of the club manager; revamping/replacing the clubs air conditioners; and the last is a bit of a "catch all" in that, gaining management information control of the POS for inventory control and number and type of items sold to detail our true costs/benefits of our food and bar service.

Priority One:

Kudos and a hearty thank you to VC Chris Chipp and Bro Phil Atkinson for volunteering their time and efforts to gather, cull, and review CVs of potential Club Manager. In all, over 100 CVs had been received and as any of you can guess, we had the good the bad and the ugly among the stacks. The finalists have been identified and further interviews and detailed discussions of the remuneration and package will need to be addressed and accepted before we can say that we have a new Club Manager. Two candidates in particular were absolute standouts and the discussions of possible employment for the time being will be limited to them.

Priority Two:

The air conditioning units have yet to be identified and indeed the actual funds for them will presumably be coming from the Capital Expense Accounts, which the sole responsibility and control falls under of the Board of Trustees. ER Jeff Green has set up meetings to facilitate better and more meaningful communication between the House Committee and the Board of Trustees by calling for and implementing a regular JOINT BOT HC MEETING. It has already proven to be an effective tool in assisting everyone as to what our next steps needs to be and what it will take in Club resources to get there. Kudos to ER Green and the Board of Trustees for taking time out from their busy schedules to make these meetings happen and to make our club more efficient. The HC will be looking into which ones actually need to be replaced first and where we are under or over air conditioned and try to make changes. We want to go about it in a measured and deliberate manner and learn where the placement of our units will be most efficient and effective for your comfort.

Priority Three:

POS management will be some ways off into the future as the POS as its functions are currently set up and the modules that the Club purchased is simply for "Membership Activity Status" and limited in its management reports and in inventory control. The Audit Committee called a meeting with the vendor of the Club's "Membership Management System" and inquired if we could perform inventory control, sales-reports-by-item, and tie our receiving reports to our inventory and sales. The answer seems to be yes but the Club would need to purchase updates and modules and, perhaps more significantly, doing so may impact Elk's registration status with the Bureau of Internal Revenue, BIR.

House Keeping Matters:

Hand soaps and hand sanitizers have been installed in the kitchen, bar back area, men's and women's rest rooms. The Club will also be supplying non-slip and anti-fatigue safety mats in the kitchen cook and preparation areas. The House Committee is always looking for ideas, suggestions, and assistance in making YOUR club better. Our club and Lodge will only be as good as we are good to it.

Do not hire a man who does your work for money, but him who does it for love of it.
Henry David Thoreau

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Elks,

Obviously, with the inclusion of Mr. Ruiz' greeting and introduction to the Club you will find contained in this newsletter, our "Priority One" write-up above was written prior to our final decision.

MEET OUR NEW CLUB MANAGER

Tom Jordan, Editor-In-Chief



Welcome to our new Club Manager, Mr. Joselito C. Ruiz! Lito, as he is known, has been in the hospitality industry for more than 20 years. Back in 1984, he started his career as a waiter at the Manila Peninsula Hotel. A year later, he went abroad on assignments in the Middle East, working in a restaurant as Captain Waiter for three years. His chosen career path begins to take shape as he joins other restaurants, gaining new skills, knowledge and experience in food and beverage service.

He continued to gain momentum when he joined one of the leading five-star hotels in the country, the Shangri-La Hotel Makati. He was appointed the Fine Dining Captain Waiter and then promoted to Assistant Manager of the coffee shop and Chinese restaurant. Lito, continued his advancement in the Shangri-La with expanding responsibility due to his expertise and high level of proficiency. Every other year he was promoted to a higher position and he ended up his nine-year stay with Shangri-La as its Room Service Manager.

But Lito was not happy with his progress. He knew he had broader capabilities and searched for new opportunities which would offer greater challenge. That challenge came soon and he joined the Philippine's premium private business club, the Tower Club Manila. His first position was as restaurant manager of one of the fine dining outlets in the club. Two years later, he was given responsibility for two outlets and again after two more years he had three outlets to manage. Lito was later promoted to be the Food and Beverage Manager. His journey does not end there. When he left the Tower Club after nine years, he held the position of Operations Manager/Officer-In-Charge.

And now, as he starts his new career with the Manila Elks Club, the membership can be assured that Lito will put in 110% towards improving and expanding the menu offerings and to enhance the atmosphere, with excellent staff and service. He wants Elks to become a dining experience; one of which we are all proud. Much work lies ahead of Lito to fulfill his and the House Committee's objectives, but he is up the task. Next time you visit the Club, please find Mr. Lito Ruiz and give him a warm Elks welcome.

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members

APRIL

- Bro. Randy Bradbury proposed by Bro. Thomas Jordan
- Bro. Robert McGlew proposed by Bro. Errol Chua
- Bro. Charles Pontier proposed by PER Theodore Awad
- Bro. John Wilson proposed by Bro. Mitchel Tetrault

MAY

- Bro. Gregorio Manipon proposed by Bro. Albert Manipon
- Bro. David Sanford proposed by Bro. Rodney Klinge
- Mr. Barry R. Mackintosh proposed by PER Doyle Stout
- Ms. Jojie Marcelino proposed by Bro. Karl Meyer

JUNE

- Bro. Paul Harris proposed Bro. Jason Mann
- Bro. Aaron William Key II proposed by Bro. Dennis Youngblood
- Bro. James Joseph Murray proposed by Bro. Joseph Medina
- Mr. Ian Fish proposed by Bro. Robert Sears
- BYLTAX SYSTEMS, INC. with six (6) Corporate Signatories proposed by ER Jeffery Green

SPECIAL EVENT

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

Tom Jordan, 4th of July Committee Member

On July 1 the Manila Elks sponsored the celebration of US Independence Day and Fil-Am Friendship Day at the Nomads Club in Merville. Approximately 400 guests and children were in attendance to play carnival games, have a swim, be entertained by the Philippine Marine Marching Band and the Philippine Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, led by Uncle Sam himself, our Elk Brother Kevin Lynch. Also to please the attendees was the Elvis Show, headlined by our own Brother Doug Masuda. Later, the KO Jones rock band entertained while many looked on. The crowd enjoyed the great food prepared by the Elks Club staff, Howzat and Bro. Walt Fagerstrom, the Manila Club, as well as enjoying cotton candy and ice cream. And there were many beverage choices, but the number one seller appeared to be beer, on the hot, muggy day. A main draw of the day was the dunk tank built by Brother Tim Strong.

The first-ever Manila Slow Pitch Men's Softball Tournament took place to start the activities. It was true experience for the crowd, and a real work out for the players. All should be proud that the Manila Elks took home the rotating trophy (now in the Club Trophy Case), with a seventh inning victory, winning 13-12. Despite having Lifeline's EMTs on hand, no player needed any life-saving measures. Major injuries were hurt backs, sore shoulders and pulled hamstrings.

The audience was eager to visit with US Ambassador Harry K. Thomas Jr. After a few comments to the crowd, the Ambassador mingled with them and was generous with his time, taking photos with whom ever wanted. He and his staff seemed to enjoy their time with us. One big surprise. Ambassador Thomas accepted an invitation from a guest and took center stage to dance. What a hoot!!

Despite a heavy downpour about 5pm, the socializing, eating and drinking went on. After the showers, an Elvis was back on stage, and then KO Jones. About 7:15pm, with the lights off and *God Bless America* over the sound system, the modified fireworks display was set off.

Comments after the event were all positive, but many had wished the NAlA had not put on damper on a big fireworks demonstration. The company was great, as was the food. A wonderful celebration by all who attended. Thanks to the July 4th Committee, Matt Slough (Chairman), Larry Thomas, Robert Lane, Jeff Green, Joy Slough, Jing Jordan, Vennie Tesalona, Jen Acuna, Michael Ascaño (AAP) and yours truly. And, a special thanks to the American Association of the Philippines for all their support and assistance to make a crowd-pleaser. Finally, the Elks Staff were invaluable contributors to the big event, and their hard work is greatly appreciated.



Elks Softball Team composed of Lodge Members.



L-R Elks Softball Captain PER Doyle Stout holding the Champion Trophy awarded by Mr. Tom Jordan 4th of July Committee/ Emcee of the event and Mr. Matthew Slough, Chairman of the committee.



Bouncy Castle one of the children activities.



Dunk Tank first victim Mrs. Joy Slough, Lodge member.



United States Ambassador Harry K. Thomas with his message.



Our very own Vice President Mr. Douglas "Elvis" Masuda with his band.

Elks food booth with the staff headed by Ms. Vennie Tesalona, OIC and Jen Acuña, Events and Marketing Manager.



BANQUETS ANYONE?

ENJOY OUR HOSPITALITY AT ELKS CLUB. A PLACE FOR BIG EVENTS AND MEMORABLE OCCASIONS.


Hold your well planned conventions, seminars, meetings, conferences, wedding receptions, birthday parties, parties and other functions at Manila Elks Club. The club offers function rooms of different sizes that can accommodate groups of 8 to 150. You can choose from a wide variety of menu selections suitable to your budget.

Call our Banquet Sales Office at 811-3173 / 811-3188. Our friendly staff will be more than glad to assist you.


HURRY! BOOK YOUR FUNCTIONS NOW!

Elks Club 2012

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E-mail: inquiry@pra.gov.ph

Retirement. More fun in the Philippines

SPECIAL EVENTS Photo Gallery



U.S. MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday, May 27, 2012



PACQUAIO VS. BRADLEY PAY-PER-VIEW

June 10, 2012



BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP COCKTAIL NIGHT

May 31, 2012



U.S. FLAG DAY

June 16, 2012

